

Appl. No. : 10/699,747
Filed : November 3, 2003

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed November 2, 2006, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following comments.

Obviousness-Type Double-Patenting Rejections

Claims 1-14 stand rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double-patenting over Claims 1-17 of U.S. Patent 6,641,591. Applicants do not necessarily agree with the basis of this double-patenting rejection. Nevertheless, to advance prosecution, Applicants are submitting a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to U.S. Patent 6,641,591 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(a). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 1-14 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. Accordingly, early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is most earnestly solicited.

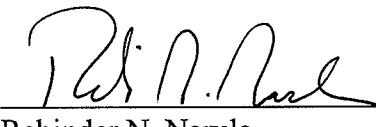
The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to all of the rejections in the case and to place the claims in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's attorney in order to resolve such issue promptly.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 12-14-06

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AMEND
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